META-CONTENT ANALYSIS AND ANNOTATION OF EMAIL AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS

ABSTRACT

Meta-content analysis and annotation upon the body of email documents, and other electronic documents, and to create a displayable index of these instances of meta-content, which is sorted and annotated by type are provided. In addition, the electronic document is enhanced by providing links for the semantic foci to external documents containing related information. An electronic document adapted for delivery to one or more recipients, the electronic document including a header and a body, is processed by:

performing meta-content extraction of semantic foci within said header and said body, the semantic foci comprising a plurality of type of information including one or more of email addresses, URLs, dates, currency values, organization names, names of people, names of places, and phone numbers;

creating a meta-content index the document based upon said extracted semantic foci;

arranging the meta-index according to said plurality of types;

combining said meta-content index with said header and said body to provide an enhanced document; and

sending said enhanced document to said one or more recipients via a communication network.

The process includes converting the electronic mail document to a markup language format, and wherein said meta-content index comprises one or more objects expressed in said markup language adapted for presentation with body in said enhanced document.

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